

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. In response to the final Office Action dated October 23, 2006, Applicants have amended claim 1. Claims 2, 13, 14, and 29 have been previously cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, claims 1, 3-12, 15-28, and 30-48 remain for consideration in this application.

In the Office Action mailed October 23, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Further, the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,206,275 to Kubo et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,856,386 to Sakai et al., or U.S. Patent No. 6,875,808 to Weier et al.

In the Office Action, the Examiner also provisionally rejected claims 1, 3-12, 15-28, and 30-48 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 6-11 and 15-48 of co-pending application Serial No. 10/706,454, which has now been allowed.

In a telephone conference with Kameron Kelly on October 17, 2006, the Examiner indicated that the present application would be in condition for allowance if claim 1 were amended to delete the term "optionally" and a Terminal Disclaimer was filed to overcome the double patenting rejection over Application Serial No. 10/706,454.

In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, Applicants have amended claim 1 to delete the term "optionally." As indicated by the Examiner in the telephone conference of October 17, 2006, this Amendment to claim 1 overcomes both the § 112 and § 103 rejections. Further, Applicants are filing herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the obviousness-type double patenting rejection over Application Serial No. 10/706,454.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully solicited. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional

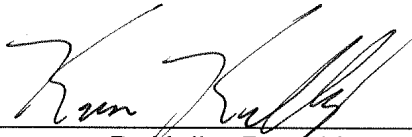
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fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

Respectfully Submitted,

HOVEY WILLIAMS LLP,

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kameron D. Kelly", is written over a horizontal line.

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